

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Joseph P. Jones et al.

Serial No.:

To be accorded

Filed:

To be assigned

Art Unit:

Unknown

Examiner:

Unknown

For:

CONTACT START PLASMA ARC TORCH AND METHOD

OF INITIATING A PILOT ARC

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed on it are attached.

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 707.05(b), Applicant respectfully requests that each document listed be given thorough consideration and that the Examiner cite each document of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to each document. Applicant requests such initialing even if the Examiner does not consider: (1) a listed document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection; (2) a document to be prior art for any reason; or (3) that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with respecting a particular document. Applicant makes this request so that each document becomes cited on the face of a patent issuing on the present application.

Applicant submits the present Information Disclosure Statement in compliance with the duty to disclose information material to patentability under 37 CFR 1.56, but by listing such documents Applicant is not admitting that such documents are necessarily relevant or prior art. Applicant intends no representation that the listed documents represent the results of a complete search. Applicant anticipates that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search to determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) and, in the course of such search, will review for relevance every document listed on the attached Form even if not initialed.

Applicant earnestly solicits early and favorable consideration. If the Examiner should have any questions with regard to this filing, he or she should contact the undersigned attorney at (314) 726-7500.

BY:

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 26, 2002

Kelly K. Burris

Reg. No. 46,361

Attorney for Applicant

of 1

Sheet

1

9858-000018

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Attorney Docket Number

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons	are required to respond to a collection	n of information unless it contains a valid OMB co	ontrol nurfiber.		
Substitute for form 1449A/PTO	Complete if Known .				
•	Application Number		Sign		
NFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date		מכ		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Joseph P. Jones et al.	7.8 0.		
	Group Art Unit		S C		
(use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name				

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.1	Number U.S. Patent Document Kind Code² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Rele Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		6,084,199	Lindsay et al.	07-04-2000	
		5,994,663	Lu	11-30-1999	
		5,897,795	Lu et al.	04-27-1999	
		5,886,315	Lu et al.	03-23-1999	
		5,796,067	Enyedy et al.	08-18-1998	
		4,940,877	Broberg	07-10-1990	
***		4,902,871	Sanders et al.	02-20-1990	
		4,567,346	Marhic	01-28-1986	
		3,832,513	Klasson	08-27-1974	
				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee	Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant			
		Office ³	Number⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		<u>.</u>	ļ ,					
			ļ				<u> </u>	
			<u> </u>		,			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark hee if English language Translation is attached.